NEWS RELEASE

Pacific Northwest Region - Colville National Forest 765 S. Main Street, Colville, WA 99114, www.fs.usda.gov/colville

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Colville National Forest Lifts Fire Restrictions

Colville, WA- Due to wetting rains and cooler temperatures, fire managers are lifting fire restrictions that have been in place since August 12, 2014. Fire restrictions will be lifted effective Thursday, August 28, 2014.

"With the wetting rains and cooler daytime temperatures he have been experiencing on the Colville National Forest, the anticipated fire danger is reduced enough to allow visitors to once again enjoy campfires on the Forest," says Fire Management Officer Tim Sampson. "Firewood cutters are also able to run chainsaws after 1:00 p.m." Sampson added.

Also effective August 28, 2014 is a drop from Industrial Fire Protection Levels (IFPL) II to IFPL I. Fire precaution requirements are still in place, and a fire watch/security is required unless otherwise waived. Please see permit or work guidelines concerning the IFPL requirements for other details on fire safety. The restrictions apply to all contractors and permit holders, including permit-holders cutting firewood for personal use.

Forest visitors and permit holders must still use caution and exercise sound fire precautions on National Forest System Lands. Good fire building and extinguishing practices are advised, such as: keeping campfires small, using existing fire rings and having a bucket, shovel, water and a fire extinguisher readily available. All campfires must be attended or fully extinguished. For tips on properly extinguishing a camp fire, please call your local ranger station.

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The mission of the US Forest Service is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the nation's forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations. Recreational activities on our lands contribute \$14.5 billion annually to the U.S. economy. The agency manages 193 million acres of public land, provides assistance to state and private landowners, and maintains the largest forestry research organization in the world.

